

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, NATO, GR
SUBJECT: GENERAL DAVOS RETURNS FROM BELGIUM

REF: ATHENS 11455 (NOTAL)

1. ALL ATHENS NEWSPAPERS DECEMBER 22 REPORT THE RETURN
YESTERDAY FROM BRUSSELS OF GENERAL DAVOS, CHIEF OF THE GREEK
NATIONAL DEFENSE GENERAL STAFF, AND INDICATE HE WILL BE
REPORTING TODAY TO DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF ON THE RESULTS
OF HIS VISIT THERE. PRESS REPORTS SINCE REFTEL HAVE BEEN MENTIONING
THAT DAVOS HAD MET IN BELGIUM WITH NATO SUPREME COMMANDER
GENERAL HAIG AND OTHER ALLIANCE OFFICIALS FOR DISCUSSIONS IN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SPECIAL GREEK RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE ALLIANCE.

2. THIS AFTERNOON'S ELEFTHERTYPIS (LEFTIST, OPPOSITION) IS
THE FIRST NEWSPAPER TO CARRY A REPORT ON THE DAVOS-AVEROFF MEETING.
ACCORDING TO ELEFTHERTYPIA DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF MADE THESE
REMARKS FOLLOWING THE "PRELIMINARY" BRIEFING HE RECEIVED FROM GENERAL
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DAVOS ON HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH GENERAL HAIG: "THE CONCLUSION OF AN
AGREEMENT ON THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WHICH WE SEEK WITH NATO WILL
TAKE TIME. VERY DELICATE AND COMPLICATED NEGOTIATIONS ARE
INVOLVED OF WHICH THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS REQUIRE TIME TO BE
WORKED OUT. IN ANY EVENT, THE MEETING BETWEEN GENERALS HAIG AND
DAVOS TOOK PLACE IN A VERY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE."

3. IN AN EARLIER STORY, PRO-GOVERNMENT KATHIMERINI REPORTED THAT THE OFFICIAL GREEK VIEW WAS THAT (A) GENERAL DAVOS PRESENTED TO GENERAL HAIG THE LATEST VIEWS OF GREECE'S POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP ON THE SUBJECT OF THE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" IT SEEKS WITH NATO, WHICH, HOWEVER, KATHIMERINI POINTED OUT PARENTHETICALLY, DOES NOT MEAN THESE VIEWS WERE NECESSARILY THE FINAL ONES; (B) OUR COUNTRY JUDGES THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF CONTROL OVER ALL THE COUNTRY'S ARMED FORCES IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL AND THIS WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE CASE AT LEAST UNTIL RELATIONS WITH TURKEY ARE COMPLETELY SETTLED; AND (C) THE BASIC PURPOSE FOR CONCLUDING A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO IS TO ENSURE GREECE'S DEFENSE IN THE EVENT OF A GENERAL CONFLICT.
MILLS

NOTE BY OC/T: REFERENCE APPEARS TO BE INCORRECT.

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